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Champions of Intermediate League, 1915

The Black and Red

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Staff of the Magazine

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EDITORIAL.

In our last issue we gave a list of our old boys who had volunteered and gone with the first contingent to Europe.

Poor fellows! They have had a horrible time training on Salisbury Plain. But at last the opportunity to do something has come. They are now at the front and "doing well." Again, good luck to them!

On Sunday, February 14th, a second instalment, the 30th Battalion, under Col. Hail, left Victoria for service, destination unknown.

Many old boys and friends were enrolled in this contingent. Amidst all these war preparations and farewells, whilst news sometimes good and sometimes bad filters through to us, we at the school are carrying on much as usual. The boys are preparing for the R.M.C. and McGill.

Rugby football is in full swing. The C.R.L. matches are taking place, and though we are fewer in number the quality of everything is just as good, nay, in some respects better.

It is customary in this number to give a review of the past year's doings.

HONOURS, 1914.

McGill Matriculation—R. Hodson, F. H. Jones, C. Frampton, A. G. Woodward, E. H. Henderson. **Conditional**—J. P. Schofield, L. de S. Duke, A. T. Ferrie, J. P. Chadwick.

Royal Naval College—A. P. Musgrave took 2nd place; W. B. Creery took 3rd place.

GAMES, 1914.

Cricket—(Capt., R. H. Finlayson): The School XI. won all its matches with the exception of the two against the masters. A splendid season. Batting—Hudson; Bowling—Hudson; Fielding—Stanley. House matches—West were champions with two out of three matches.

Football—(Capt., C. Kilpatrick): The first XV. won 10, lost 2, drew 1. Second XV. won 2, lost 1, drew 1. House matches—East House won 2, lost 1, and 1 drawn. The first XV. came out top in the city Intermediate Rugby League, thereby winning the "Virtue" Cup.

Hockey—(Capt., C. Kilpatrick): Won 2, lost 0. House matches—East 3, West 2. Barnacle Cup—Won by team captained by Balcom.

Shooting—(Capt., R. B. Waldon): Inter-School Shield—4th place in Canada. C.R.L. Series (Wood's Cup)—2nd place in Canada. Imperial Challenge Shield—57th place in the Empire (a prize of \$10). C.R.L. Miniature)—4th place in Canada. Tolmie Shield won by Vancouver team (Traeger). Section Cup won by No. IV. section (Sergeant Calder). Finlayson Shield won by Mountaineers' team (Finlayson).

Individual Championships: Head of School—R. Hodson; Athletics (Senior)—C. Kilpatrick; Athletics (Junior)—R. Hedley; Boxing—C. Kilpatrick; Gymnastics—C. Kilpatrick; Tennis—H. Hudson; Shooting—H. Winch.

House Cup—(Athletic Sports): West House.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The following boys have joined us this term:

Blackmur (Form II.), East House.
McFarland (Form II.), Warden's House.
Andros (Form IIIb.), West House.
Matson i (Form V.), East House.
Matson ii (Form V.), East House.
Copithorne (Form IV.), East House.
Moore (Form I.), Warden's House.
Petticrew (Form IV.), West House.

Returned:

McVittie (Form V.).
Corsan (Form V.).
Finlayson (Special Student).

We congratulate Mr. Willis on his advancement to the priesthood.

To Mr. T. J. Thomas, who takes the Upper Third, the School offers a very hearty welcome.

Hodson deserves great praise. In the holidays he and a friend were responsible for a Patriotic Concert, by which they were able to contribute a considerable sum to the Patriotic Fund.

Hodson and Thurburn did well in the farce "Billy Doo."

Well done 1st XV.! Congratulations to you. We cannot help saying the great success is largely due to the encouragement and advice of Mr. Bennett and to the sterling qualities of the captain.

We thought the captain's speech after receiving the Cup a great "effort."

If the members of the C.R.L. team (miniature) do as well in the next two matches as they have done in the first two, we think the School will come out very near the top.

There was a great rush this season for the numerous garden plots. There should be keen competition for the Garden Cup this year. Marks were awarded last year as follows: Neatness; Color Scheme; Arrangement of Plants; Size and Quality of Blooms.

Sergeant Soper, who was on the Reserve, has been called up by the authorities and we understand has gone to Portsmouth. We are sorry to lose his services, and we wish him the best of luck.

CHAPEL NOTES.

The old East House Library has now been arranged as a Chapel, and we hold our Sunday morning services there instead of in the Assembly Hall, where we still hold our daily services as usual.

This term we hold Sunday service in the morning. This gives Mr. Willis the opportunity to take the evening service at Oaklands.

The Chaplain is glad to have the assistance of Mr. Bennett at the services.

We have to thank Mr. Dobson for his services in training the choir, in succession to Mr. Sparks. The choir has been greatly improved by the inclusion of basses.

Our heartiest thanks are due to De Berigny and all members of the choir for their help in the services and hard work in the practices. We hope they will enjoy their well-earned holiday.

There are thirteen candidates for Confirmation, as compared with twelve last year. Their names will appear in our next issue.

On Ash Wednesday we held a special service, at which all the day-boys were present. Mr. Bolton gave us a short address.

We should like to convey our heartiest thanks to the Rev. H. A. Collisson, Rector of the parish, for his sermon on Sunday, March 7th.

"THE BLACK AND RED."

Reports have reached the editor that our magazine suffers from a lack of what the critics call a "joke column."

These reports have been so persistent lately that it seems fitting to explain that the object of the "Black and Red" is not merely to produce mirth and laughter. It is a serious account of the School's doings, a real account of what our boys are doing in the class-room and on the field. It takes note of the successes of **teams** and **individuals** in all the many events which make up the school life of the term. It is a school

chronicle where one may find the date of a boy's entry to our little state, what he did whilst here, and when he left to take his part in the greater struggle of life.

It also offers space to all fellows who from time to time are inclined to write, for the benefit of its readers, any article or story which will give information and pleasure to its subscribers.

Here I would like to point out that there seems to be either a real dearth of talent or disinterestedness.

Our columns are open to receive anything original that we consider would interest others. Some still argue that a page of jokes might be inserted and that much pleasure would be derived from it.

We would not like to make ourselves responsible for a regular contribution of original jokes, and we do not care to collect a lot of old "chestnuts" from some "funny" paper.

However, we are open to receive anything really sparkling that has emanated from any of "ours."

EDITOR.

OLD BOYS' COLUMN.

A full account of the Old Boys' Match will be found in the Football Notes.

Old Boys' Association.

After the match the Old Boys held a meeting in Mr. Barnacle's study.

Mr. Barnacle and Mr. Willis were present.

It was unanimously agreed that the time was ripe for the formation of an Old Boys' Association.

In proposing the formation of an O.B.A., Hal Wade said: "There is now a goodly number of O.B.'s in all parts of the Province, and it is very desirable that they should keep in touch with the old School.

"It is very desirable that as many O.B.'s as possible should gather together once a year, exchange notes, and talk over old times, old matches, old everything."

Mr. Barnacle replied that he felt that an O.B.A. would enable the School to follow the careers and progress of its old boys; that old boys who were kept in touch with the School were more likely and more capable of helping the School; also that an O.B.A. would be able to keep old boys in touch with one another, and what could be nicer for an old boy going to

some strange town than a welcome and help from another old boy.

The University School Old Boys' Association was then duly formed, and the following officers were elected for 1915:

President: Mr. Barnacle.

Hon. Sec.: H. R. Wade.

Committee: C. Creery, A. Thorson, H. Winch.

It was resolved that the annual subscription should be one dollar, and that each bona-fide member should be supplied with a copy of the Black and Red each term.

It was resolved that the O.B.'s should send a team each year to play the School XV. and that a dinner be held after the match.

It was also resolved that the minutes of the meeting be inserted in the Easter "Black and Red," a copy of which should be sent to as many O.B.'s as possible.

After signatures had been made in the O.B.'s visiting book, the meeting adjourned.

The following old boys are to be congratulated on their several successes:

W. J. Pearse has received a commission in King Edward's Horse. It must be remembered that Pearse was the Rhodes Scholar for McGill in 1911.

J. G. Tatlow has received a commission in Strathcona's Horse and is at present training at Winnipeg.

Crawford and Townsend have obtained commissions in the Royal Artillery.

We were pleased to receive a photograph from Malcolm Bright, who has received a commission in the Royal Engineers.

We learn that L. B. Potts is shortly to obtain a commission, and is at present training at Sandhurst.

Robert Bell-Irving, head boy in 1908, has also obtained a commission in the Royal Engineers.

Bagshawe, Johns, Caldwell, Tom Corsan and McAnally have left with the 30th Battalion for service.

We learn that Spencer; Frampton ii, Dobbie, C. Creery and R. Creery are in training and hope to go with the next contingent.

Douglas-Scott is a lieutenant in the 88th and hopes to go with the third contingent.



RUGBY.

The XV. were fortunate enough to open the season with seven old Colours, who formed the nucleus of a team which, as the months passed, showed itself to be the best that has ever represented the School. Out of eight matches played in the Intermediate Competition for the "Virtue" Cup, the XV. won seven, scoring in all 135 points to 10, while in the other matches 55 points were scored against 17. These scores, combined with the fact that the School did not have its line crossed till the end of January, are a good indication of the exceptional all-round ability of the XV.

The XV. are to be most heartily congratulated on winning the "Virtue" Cup. This splendid result could not have been attained if it had not been for the keenness shewn by every member of the team both in turning out for practices and in training. The combination was excellent, all working together like the parts of a well-oiled machine, the backs splendid in attack and defence, the forwards irresistible in their combined rushes.

Appended is a short description of the various matches:

School vs. McGill. This was the opening match of the season and was a good forerunner of what was to come, for the game ended in our favour by 17-0. Tries were scored by Kilpatrick (2), Balcom (2) and Helmcken (1). The forwards were excellent both in the scrum and the line-out; their combined rushes were certainly a great factor in winning the game.

School vs. High School. Played on Oak Bay ground and won by 21-0. The individual work of the captain and Stanley and the combination of the whole team proved too much for our opponents. Kilpatrick (4) and Henderson (1) were the scorers for the School. As in the previous match, the forwards worked untiringly from start to finish, and gave the

back division many opportunities, which were taken splendid advantage of.

School vs. Fifth Regiment. This match was most evenly contested, and there were many anxious moments before the final whistle went, leaving us winners by one try, which was scored by Kilpatrick, to nil. The School pack outplayed their opponents and were especially good in the loose.

School vs. 50th Highlanders. As the score, 41-0, denotes, the game was very one-sided. It was chiefly due to the forwards that the School back division was able to score so freely. They packed well and got the ball in the scrums without fail. Special mention must be made of the brilliant work of Henderson and Balcom. The try-getters were Kilpatrick (4), Stanley (3), Helmcken (2), Henderson and Thomas, 1 each.

School vs. High School (Second Round). The game started with the High School pressing dangerously, their well-placed kicking gaining much ground. However, this was not to last for long, for after a good passing run by our three-quarters, Henderson scored from a line-out, to repeat the good work shortly afterwards. Kilpatrick converted one, and with Thomas kicking a penalty and Stanley scoring, the score at half time was 14-0. Hodson and Henderson were constantly conspicuous in the second half for their brilliant dribbling, and Helmcken and McKenzie for their good outside work. No further tries were scored, and so the School were victorious by 14-0.

School vs. Fifth Regiment (Second Round). A thoroughly interesting match saw the School colours lowered for the first time and their line crossed for the first and only time this season in League matches. It must with fairness be stated that the School were extremely unlucky to have their record broken, their opponents scoring twice. The Regiment started strongly, play for the first five minutes being in the School 25. Good packing in the loose took the ball down to the other end of the ground, where Kilpatrick, from a free kick, landed a magnificent goal. The School continued to press, Henderson getting over for another 3 points. Then the Regiment scored, the ball bouncing out of one of our three-quarter's hands over the line and being touched down behind the posts by one of the soldiers. Half time came with the score 6-5. For the greater part of the second half the School pressed, but could not get over the line. Then, again, Dame Fortune came to the help of the Regiment, the ball bouncing off our full back straight into the arms of one of their three-quarters, who had a clear run in. This try was converted.

and the Regiment came out winners by 10 points to 6. Henderson and Balcom were again excellent, while Kilpatrick and de Pencier were the best of the back division.

School vs. McGill (Second Round). Although McGill was strengthened by the addition of three "outsiders," they were not nearly equal to the School XV., who won by 6-0. The score does not adequately represent the run of the game, for with the exception of the first few minutes, the School were continuously pressing, but owing to the very slippery state of the ball, many fine passing movements went astray. Helmcken played a specially fine game, whilst Hodson and Thomas were most conspicuous amongst the forwards. Jackson at full back was very safe, and brought off one magnificent tackle. Helmcken, Garrard, de Berigny and Calder are to be congratulated on winning their colours.

School vs. Fifth Regiment (Final for "Virtue" Cup). As the two opposing teams had each beaten the other, and won all their other matches, a very close and interesting game was looked forward to, but as it happened there was only one team in it, and that was not the Regiment. For the first few minutes the play was in the School half, but soon our forwards worked the ball down, and Stanley, intercepting a pass and breaking through their defence with a fine run opened the scoring. From now on, with the exception of two forlorn individual efforts, the School carried everything before them. Our forwards were playing magnificently and were giving the three-quarters splendid openings, which were well taken advantage of, Helmcken scoring for the captain to convert, half time coming with the score 8-0. On the re-start the School forwards absolutely took possession of the game, sweeping down on their opponents' line in an overwhelming rush. From a scrum on their line McKenzie threw himself over for a try. Stanley was the next to score, through a brilliant run by Helmcken. The try was converted by Balcom. Cleverly dodging through the backs, Stanley got over again, but Balcom's kick from a difficult angle hit the post and rebounded. Shortly afterwards Stanley and Helmcken were again each responsible for tries, and with one being converted the game closed, leaving the School winners by 27-0. Directly afterwards the Virtue Cup was presented to the School XV. by the donor. The play of the whole team was excellent throughout. Names of the try-getters have been mentioned, but it must be remembered that it is the work of the whole team which makes the try possible, and the kudos which the actual scorer gets belongs just as much to the rest of his side. The School team was as follows: Jackson, Van Valkenberg, Kilpatrick, Stanley, Helmcken, de Pencier,

McKenzie, Hodson, Henderson, Balcom, Garrard, Calder, Thomas, Tolmie, de Berigny.

School vs. Old Boys. The team of Old Boys got together by Finlayson made a very welcome appearance on the school grounds on January 23rd. Lack of condition and practice made themselves felt, but they showed their opponents that the football learnt while they were here was not forgotten. During the first half the School scored twice, through Balcom and Van Valkenberg, the first of which was converted. On the re-start the School forwards swept down the field and Henderson got over, to repeat the good work a few minutes later, taking a good pass from Stanley. The Old Boys were making strenuous efforts, and from a good combined rush carried the ball down to their opponents' line, but the School forwards soon took the ball back, and McDonald had hard work stopping them. Balcom soon afterwards got over, but Kilpatrick's kick was charged down by Rich, who repeated the performance shortly afterwards, Kilpatrick having crossed the line for the sixth try of the match. de Pencier scored the last try, running round the blind side of the scrum. The School were therefore victorious by 23-0. For the Old Boys Thorsen, of the forwards, and McDonald, Winch, Wade and Rich, of the backs, played very well. The Old Boys side was: McDonald, Finlayson, Wade, Dobbie, Winch, Rich, Creery, Woodward, Thorsen, Ferrie, Hudson, Wallich, Drewry, Winslow and a sub.

The School vs. Mr. Bennett's XV. In their matches against teams brought by Mr. Bennett the School won the second by 18-6, but lost the first, 3-11. This result was not unexpected, as the scratch team contained eight representative players, and had a great advantage in "avoirdupois." Jackson and Mackenzie are to be congratulated on winning their colours.

School vs. Vancouver Normal School. In this match the play during the first half was very even, neither side scoring, but soon after the game restarted Kilpatrick scored a try, which he also converted. Matson scored the next, after a brilliant passing movement by the backs. The attempt to convert failed. Soon afterwards Thomas scored from a forward rush, and the game ended in a victory for the School by 11-0. The combination of the team was brilliant. Craig and Tolmie are to be congratulated on winning their colors.

School vs. Langara. The XV. went to Vancouver to play this match, which resulted in a pointless draw. In the first half our opponents had much the better of the play, but after changing over this was reversed, and the School had bad luck on more than one occasion in not scoring. The forwards

were packing and heeling well, but the backs found the slippery ball very hard to handle, and good passing movements would break down at the critical moment. Stanley distinguished himself by a brilliant cut through and was unlucky in not being supported. McKenzie played a great game at half.

JUNIOR LEAGUE.

The School 2nd XV. did not succeed in emulating the 1st in winning the League, but they made a very good effort, being runners-up. The first match against the Central School was lost, 0-15. It is only fair to say that their opponents were very much heavier, and, as the game was played in drenching rain, this weight naturally told. The feature of the match was the splendid tackling by Wilson.

In the next match the School beat the High School, 6-3, Byrn and Annance being the try-getters.

The return game, played on the School grounds, also ended in a win by the same score, 6-3. This was a very keenly contested game, and up to the last minute the issue was in doubt, Matson getting over after a good run, but Kerfoot, who had scored the first try, failed to convert.

The last match was a return with the Central School. A win would have put the School at the top of the League, but though we had the best of the play, our opponents managed to keep us from scoring, and a pointless draw was the result.

The School team was: Creery, Matson, Challoner, Nichol, Innes, Byrn, Jones, Appleton, Corsan, Kerfoot, George, Sizer, McGregor, Burton and Thurburn.

CHARACTERS OF THE XV.

Jackson (1914-15). Good kick and excellent tackle; weak in fielding, owing to allowing the ball to bounce instead of catching it. His great fault is ducking his head when in possession of ball.

Van Valkenberg (1913-14). Very strong kick; did some good defensive work in early part of season; has latterly lost a great deal of the dash which characterized his previous play.

Kilpatrick (1912-13). A very good inside; combines well; is good in making openings; a very fine all-round kick. The success of the XV. is due to a great extent to the very able way in which he has fulfilled the duties of captain. We heartily congratulate him on getting his place in the Representative XV.

Stanley (1913-14). A particularly fine kick; poor tackle; good in "going down"; combines well with his partners and is very clever in making openings; has all the essentials of a first-class three-quarter.

Helmcken (1914-15). Considering that this was his first year at Rugby, he has played surprisingly well; a fast and strong runner; has all the attributes for a successful wing three-quarter; much improved in swerving and handing off; must learn to kick and tackle.

de Pencier (1913-14). Splendid in defence; absolutely fearless in going down at the feet of the forwards; always on the ball; must learn to get the ball away with a snap.

McKenzie (1914-15). Has played consistently well throughout the season; smart in getting the ball away to his three-quarters and quick to take advantage of an opportunity; weak in tackling.

Hodson (1913-14). A very sound forward; a hard worker in the scrum; clever with his feet in the "loose"; a player who uses his head; has made a capable scrum leader.

Henderson (1913-14). A really brilliant forward; good in scrum, but especially so in the "loose"; his clever dribbling and taking advantage of opportunities have been the features in many matches; has a great future in front of him as a forward.

Balcom (1913-14). A clever dribbler and good kick; has played splendidly throughout the season; very useful in "line-outs"; has one fault, and that is an inclination to "wing" too much.

Garrard (1914-15). Improved immensely and has become a very sound player; uses his feet well in the "loose" and works hard in the pack; must learn to tackle low.

de Berigny (1914-15). A useful forward; good in the "loose"; slow in getting round the ball in the "line-out."

Thomas (1913-14). A very good forward; works hard in the scrum and has played many excellent games; a difficult man to stop; good kick.

Tolmie (1913-14). Uses his weight most effectively; has much improved in the "loose" and "line-out"; has played consistently well throughout the season.

Calder (1914-15). A very hard working forward; exceedingly useful in the scrum; will develop into a good forward when he has learnt to control his feet; good tackle.

Craig (1914-15). A good all-round player, especially useful with his feet; he won his colours early this season but, unfortunately, had to leave us for the rest of the term.

The following helped the XV. in the opening half of the season:

Cuthbert, full back. Good kick, but slow in fielding the ball.

Kingham, forward. Good in the "loose," but did not use his weight enough in the scrum; slow in "line-out," but a good dribble.

V. R. B.



MATTERS MILITARY

Commanding Officer—Lieut. E. M. Willis.

Company Leader—Kilpatrick.

Right Half Co. Leader—Henderson.

Left Half Co. Leader—Stanley.

Half Co. Leader (Supernumerary)—Garrard.

V. R. Bennett, Esq., has been appointed provisional Lieut. Instructor pending confirmation from headquarters.

The band, under the energetic leadership of Band Sergt. Creery and Corpl. Nichol, has made splendid progress, and we can now boast of as good a band as we have had for some time. This, considering the fact that all the members were new at the beginning of the year, reflects great credit on the members themselves and also the N.C.O.'s.

The following recruits have been taken on the strength: Andros, Blackmur, Petticrew, Copithorne.

Corporal Corsan is again taken on the strength and is a considerable help to the band.

Pte. George has joined the signallers.

There is a special squad of those taking R.M.C., consisting of Half Co. Leader Stanley, Sergt. Challoner, Sig. Corpl. Jones, Signaller Hudson.

The present strength of the corps is 73.

NOTES FROM THE BUTTS.

Miniature: The first C.R.L. was shot off on Wednesday, January 20th, and proved a very creditable performance. The boys obtained an average of 96 points, which is a school record for C.R.L. and may be hard to beat. The scores are:

Cuthbert	98	Traeger	95
Kerfoot	98	Creery	95
Matson ii	98	Belson	94
Garrard	97	Hodson	94
Van Valkenberg	97		
Matson i	95		—
Challoner	95	Total	1,056

The second C.R.L. was fired on Wednesday, February 10th, and although the scores were not so good as in the first match, a very good average was made. Scores were as follows:

Kerfoot i	49	49	98	Evans	48	46	94
Matson ii	49	48	97	Nichol	45	49	94
Garrard	48	47	95	de Pencier i ...	46	47	93
Appleton	48	47	95	Atkins	45	47	92
Traeger	47	48	95				
Van Valkenberg	48	47	95				—
de Berigny	46	48	94	Total			1,042

It has been decided to rank the squads in order of total, so that the higher score a boy makes the better chance he has of shooting in the first squad. This has been done to instil more interest and keener competition in the shooting.

The squads will be posted each week immediately after every shoot.

ANOTHER NORTHERN DOG STORY.

Just as "The Derby" is the greatest of all horse races, so "The All Alaska Sweepstake" is the greatest of all dog races. The former race is only for a distance of a little over a mile; the latter is a race of 400 miles from Nome to Candle (look it up in your map) and return. It comes off in the early part of each year, when the snow is packed hard and the ice is firm; and not only Alaska, but all the world over, where dog fanciers are found, takes the keenest interest in this wonderful test of endurance and grit.

It was my good fortune when at Nome last summer, to visit the kennels of the "Darling's" dogs, who have three times won the Blue Ribbon of Dogdom. Closely associated with this team is "Scotty Allen," known throughout Alaska as "The King of the Trail." He also I met, and I felt proud

to shake the hand of so fine a sportsman. He is a little fellow, pleasant of feature, and quicksilver all over.

In former years when Nome was "humming," and sixteen teams would enter for the great race, Allen had a partner in this team of dogs. The partner left for other parts, and the stables were in danger of extinction. Then it was that Mrs. Darling stepped into the breach. It is hard to say whether Mr. or Mrs. Darling take the deepest interest, but anyway, the lady's name is always associated with the dogs, and she loves her team dearly.

There are thirty-six in all. No care is thought too much to give them. In the stables—for the "Kennels" are not as you would think, but large buildings fit for horses—each dog has its stall; and these dogs are as different from the ordinary dog in the street as racers are from cab-horses. In bunches they were turned loose in the yard for my inspection. They are neither true Huskies nor Mamalukes, but a cross between bird dogs and the first named.

The leaders were brought up. "Baldy," the greatest of all, whose love is centred on one person alone in the world—Scotty Allen—and of whom many a tale can be told. Then "Irish," a setter, with lovely eyes, but they are delicate, and so, when he acts as leader, he wears spectacles of strange make, which were put on for my satisfaction.

Then came the third leader, "Spot," a pointer, a truly magnificent thing, proud as a peacock of himself, and always posing for a photograph.

The teams, as they were turned loose, tore about the yard, each dog a sample, the result of tenderest care.

Obedience is the law, and Allen has them perfectly in hand. As he said to me: "If you are not master in the yards, you will not have obedience on the trail."

During the short summer the dogs are fed on fish, but as soon as the winter comes they, like himself, go into training and have special added diet. I asked Scotty how much of the 400 miles race he actually ran. "Somewhat less than half"; for the rest he stands on the runners behind.

I saw the beautiful sleigh, weighing only 30 lbs., made of hardest hickory and tied with reindeer sinews, its runners shod with ivory. The record time for that great distance is seventy-six hours. They say that Allen is king because of his wonderful generalship and handling of his dogs. There is, however, "The Luck of the Trail," which mostly falls to his lot. There are blizzards to face or escape; there are broken runners and tired dogs. One rule of the race that must be observed is that every dog that starts must be brought back, dead or alive. None can be added once the start is made.

The hero "Baldy" once came near being brought home on the sleigh instead of in front of it. In "breaking" trail he played out, and after a rest was so stiff that Allen put him in a robe and tied all tightly on the sleigh. Soon after starting there was serious trouble in that robe, and, tearing himself free, "Baldy" leaped out on to the trail. Still "Scotty" would not harness him, so "Baldy" ranged ahead, breaking trail for the rest. Allen felt that the only way to show the dog that he was useless was to place him again, for a while, as leader. Once there in his old place, he swept ahead, setting a terrific pace, and kept the honoured post to the victorious end. No wonder "Baldy" is a hero.

In another of these titanic struggles Allen, when in the lead of the other competing teams, heard something snap. Leaning forward and outward to see what had happened, his head struck an iron post marking the trail, and with such force that he was knocked senseless from the runners and fell over on the snow. The team went on for some distance, as the track showed, when "Baldy" must have turned and seen no Allen. When "Scotty" came to his senses, "Baldy" was standing over him, licking his face and howling in his grief, and all the other dogs standing erect in their line awaiting their master's orders. That year, for the third time, the "Darling Dogs" captured the Blue Ribbon of Alaska. Before this article appears in print another of those splendid competitions will have been run. Who could help wishing now with all his heart that "Scotty" and "Baldy" reach first the goal again?

W. W. BOLTON.

THE WAR.

As drowning men clutch at straws, so the Imperial Chancellor, floundering in his sea of wrongs, grasps the hope of vindicating his country's course of action. In August last he frankly admitted that to invade Belgium was a palpable wrong. Since then his angle of vision has changed owing to a chance discovery. He now declares that could he have known what has since been revealed to him, he would never have admitted the wrong.

Let us examine the discovery. It is simply that at Brussels some memoranda of a meeting between British and Belgian officers were found. The notes contained an outline of what the British might do in case the neutrality of Belgium were violated. Among the possibilities was included the sending of British forces to assist Belgium. But, as Sir Edward Grey has pointed out, there was a specific marginal

note explaining that everything depended on Belgium being first invaded by another power.

Thence the Chancellor deduces that Britain intended war against Germany. The inference is false in the light of the following: (1) Britain proposed a conference of the Powers to prevent the ramshackle Empire's punitive expedition against Serbia, the shock of which expedition, we may add in passing, has recoiled with the force of Nemesis; (2) Britain having received Germany's "No!" to this proposal, asked her to make some other proposal in the interest of peace. To this she did not comply. (3) Finally Britain asked both Germany and France to respect their treaty obligations regarding Belgium.

From these considerations we are obliged to conclude that the Chancellor's hope is essentially futile. However much he may attempt both to confuse, and make confusion more confounded, we believe Justice will render the verdict: "Not Proven!"

The stigma of guilt must always attach to such wanton aggression as Germany has shown. Her diplomacy having failed, she threw off the mask, and with all the fury of an unleashed fiend made the appeal to Mars. But before invoking the aid of the martial deity she made most lavish preparations. Among these was a system of railway sidings abutting on the borders of Belgium, in small rural settlements. These had, and could have but one purpose. Here lies the explanation of the discovery made in Brussels. Had not these threatening measures been open to the eyes of Belgium there would have been no need for British and Belgian consultation.

War is the result of conditions. In the case of the present war we have to look for chance phenomena which precipitated the conflict. In Germany's preparations lies the cause. We have only to read the works of such men as Bernhardi and all is patent as the light of day. Seeing no middle way between "World Power" or "Downfall," this nation which waged aggressive war thrice in the last half century has come to regard war as a scientific necessity.

Much has been accredited to Germany as a scientific nation. We may concede that she has done much in applying the great principles discovered by others. In this she needs no commendation, and is worthy of emulation. However, it will always appear as a paradox that the nation which instituted International Law in Europe was the nation which so flagrantly violated the same law.

The broad stream of that liberty which permeates the British Empire has slowly broadened down from precedent to precedent. Our heritage having come to us as the result

